

Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report

New Information in Blue Text

Event Name	22-0007 Winter Weather 22FEB				
Date	February 25, 2022				
Time	9:00 AM				
Operational Period	February 24 to February 25, 2022				
Report Number	2				

Regions Affected	
DPS Regions Affected	1, 5 & 6
DDCs Active	3, 4A, 5 & 6

STATEWIDE CURRENT SITUATION: On February 22, Governor Abbott ordered the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) to increase the readiness of the State Emergency Operations Center (SOC) to Level II: Escalated Response for Winter Weather ahead of wintry conditions expected to impact portions of Texas, with the most significant impacts Wednesday through Sunday.

Light snow is expected in the Panhandle and portions of West Texas Tuesday night into Thursday morning. A wintry mix is anticipated in some North and Central Texas areas beginning Wednesday and lasting through Friday. Additionally, an extremely cold wind chill is forecast nearly statewide on Wednesday and will continue through Saturday morning.

Representatives from key state agencies belonging to the Emergency Management Council reported to the SOC beginning Wednesday, February 23, at 7 AM to assist in the state's winter weather response.

- Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC)
- Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT)
- Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC)
- Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS)
- Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD)
- Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT)
- Texas Military Department (TMD)
- Texas A&M Forest Service (TAMFS)

- Department of State Health Services (DSHS)
- Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)
- Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC)
- TDEM Recovery
- TDEM Mass Care

More information can be found at: https://www.tdem.texas.gov/disasters/february-winter-weather-2022-2

DriveTexas.org as of 6:40 AM February 25.

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OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES:

- 1. Protect life and property.
- 2. Support rapid & effective response.
- 3. Collect and disseminate accurate incident information to improve decision-making.
- 4. Accurately track incident costs associated with assigned resources for cost recovery.

Region 1 (Includes DDCs 4, 5, 6, and 22)

DDC 4A – Hurst (Includes: Denton, Erath, Hood, Johnson, Palo Pinto, Parker, Somervell, Tarrant, and Wise Counties)

The Disaster District EOC is at level 3 and is operating virtually.

All managed lanes of North Tarrant Express (NTE) and NTE I-35W remain closed.

Most roads and highways have traffic moving well.

DFW International Airport has all runways open, with their EOC activated to Bronze (Level III).

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Forty-six ISDs and six colleges/universities are closed Thursday. Almost all schools will re-open Friday, a few will have delayed start times.

Arlington Salvation Army open until 7 AM Friday, February 25. Denton County Salvation Army open overnight on Friday, February 25.

Denton County Transportation Authority (DCTA) will resume normal service on Friday, February 25.

City Closures for Thursday: Arlington, Grapevine, Hurst (non-emergency facilities), Haltom City, Lewisville.

All University of Texas – Arlington classes, in-person and online, scheduled to start before 10 AM, February 25, are cancelled. Classes scheduled to start at or after 10 AM will continue as scheduled.

Arlington Salvation Army open until 7 AM Friday, February 25 and the Denton County Salvation Army will be open overnight on Friday.

DDC 4B – Garland (Includes: Collin, Dallas, Ellis, Hunt, Kaufman, Navarro, and Rockwall Counties)

Collin County: EOC Activated to Level III (Increased readiness) Monitoring. Cities of Allen, Anna, Frisco, McKinney, Plano, Prosper & Wylie: EOC Activated to Level III (Increased readiness) Monitoring.

Dallas County: EOC Activated to Level III (Increased readiness) Monitoring. Cities of Carrollton, Cedar Hill, Coppell, Dallas, Desoto, Duncanville, Farmers Branch, Garland, Grand Prairie, Irving, Lancaster, Mesquite, Richardson, Seagoville, Wilmer & University Park: EOC Activated to Level III (Increased readiness) Monitoring.

Ellis County/City of Waxahachie: EOC Activated to Level III (Increased readiness) Monitoring.

Cities of Midlothian & Red Oak: EOC Activated to Level III (Increased readiness) Monitoring.

Kaufman County: EOC Activated to Level III (Increased readiness) Monitoring. Cities of Forney, Terrell: EOC Activated to Level III (Increased readiness) Monitoring.

Navarro County: EOC Activated to Level III (Increased readiness) Monitoring. City of Corsicana: EOC Activated to Level III (Increased readiness) Monitoring.

Rockwall County: EOC Activated to Level III (Increased readiness) Monitoring. Cities of Fate & Rowlett: EOC Activated to Level III (Increased readiness) Monitoring.

The Following local government offices will have a delayed opening on Friday, February 25: Balch Springs, Cottonwood, Crandall, Forney, Grays Prairie, Kaufman, Kemp, Mabank, Oak Grove, Oak Ridge, Poetry, Post Oak Bend, Rosser, Scurry, Talry, Terrell, Fate, Heath, McLendon – Chisholm, Mobile City, and Rockwall.

Warming Centers Open: 8 Warming Centers on Standby: 14

ISD Closures: 9 ISD Delays: 58 ISD Virtual Learning: 1

Regional Airport Update:

Airport Closures/Major and Regional:

DFW: Status - Open

Approximately 1066 flights have been canceled for February 24. Sixty-three flights have been canceled for February 25.

Dallas Love Field: Status - Open

One hundred eleven flights have been canceled for Ferbuary 24. Six flights have been canceled for February 25.

Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART): DART implemented Operating Scenario 2 of their Severe Winter Weather Operating Plans through the end of service on Friday, February 25. DART bus routes will operate on a Sunday schedule. DART will run 14 shuttle routes between rail stations. More information at www.dart.org/winterweather

Trinity Railway Express: TRE will operate on a Saturday schedule on Thursday, February 24.

DDC 5 – Mt. Pleasant (Includes: Bowie, Cass, Delta, Franklin, Hopkins, Lamar, Morris, Red River, and Titus Counties)

The Disaster District EOC is at level 3 (Increased Readiness Conditions).

Icing developing on bridges and overpasses reported in Hopkins, Delta, Lamar, Franklin and Titus Counties. Multiple wrecks on I-30 due to ice on bridges.

Independent School Districts delayed start on Friday, February 25: Paris, North Lamar, Chisum, Prariland, Sulphur Bluff, and Saltillo

DDC 6 – Tyler (Includes: Anderson, Camp, Cherokee, Gregg, Harrison, Henderson, Marion, Panola, Rains, Rusk, Smith, Upshur, Van Zandt, and Wood Counties)

The DDC EOC is Activated to Level III (Increased Readiness). Rains County Courthouse will open at 10 AM (2-hour delay) on Thursday. Independent School Districts closed on Friday: Malakoff ISD. Cross Roads ISD and Eustace ISD will delay opening two hours.

A warming center has opened in the City of Tool at the Oran White Civic Center located at 701 North Tool Drive. Regular Salvation Army and Hwy 80 Rescue Mission are open.

Crews are out monitoring roadways and it still seems that issues may occur northwest/western parts of the district. This would include Wood, Henderson, Van Zandt and Smith counties.

DDC 22 – Sherman (Includes: Cooke, Fannin, and Grayson Counties)

Cooke County: EOC Activated to Level III (Increased readiness).

Fannin County: EOC Activated to Level II (Escalated Response Conditions).

Grayson County: EOC Activated to Level III (Increased readiness).

Grayson County and Fannin County Early Voting Poles remain closed Thursday.

Traffic accidents took longer than normal to clear because of delayed response times by wrecker services on icy roadways.

Increased calls for service related to traffic accidents have begun with the evening commute.

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Limited TxDOT resources kept the crews from treating Farm to Market (FM) road surfaces, as they focus on Tier I & II roadways. This resulted in multiple residents across the county unable to travel, especially in areas of rolling terrain.

Seven Truck Tractor Semi-Trailers (TTSTs) slid into the ditch of US 82 in the early morning hours of February 24, near the City of Honey Grove at the US 82, SH 56 merge.

Warming Centers are open: Light Fellowship 801 W. Owing in Denison Salvation Army 5700 Texoma Pkwy in Sherman

Independent School Districts closed on Thursday: Callisburg, Gainesville, Lindsay, Valley View, Walnut Bend, Muenster, Collinsville, Denison, Pottsboro, S&S, Sherman, Whitesboro, Tioga, Fannindale, Van Alstyne, Gunter, Howe, Sam Rayburn, Honey Grove, Bonham, Leonartd, Trenton, Savoy, Ector, Dodd City, Tom Bean, Bells, and Whitewright.

College/Universities closed on Thursday: North Central Texas College and Grayson Community College.

County and city Municipalities closed on Thursday, February 24: Fannin Counry, Cooke County, Grayson County, City of Denison.

Region 5 (Includes DDCs 1, 2, 3, and 7)

DDC 3 – Wichita Falls (Includes: Archer, Baylor, Clay, Cottle, Foard, Hardeman, Jack, Wichita, Wilbarger, and Young Counties)

Weather: The Winter Weather Advisory has ended for the district. No further precipitation is expected. Lows will be in the low teens overnight with highs Friday in the mid 30's. Very little if any thawing occurred Thursday.

Transportation: TxDOT continues to monitor and work roadways across the district. Roadways that have been worked extensively by TxDOT are much improved but some refreezing and trouble areas may persist. Lower tier roads are less improved and still problematic.

Government/School Impacts: Many schools have elected to close Friday. Some governmental closures have been decided on Friday as well.

Shepard Air Force Base closed on Friday, February 25.

City of Wichita Falls offices will have a 2-hour delay for opening on Friday, February 25.

Independent School Districts closed on Friday, February 25: Archer City, Holliday, Petrolia, Bellevue, Henrietta, Midway, Crowell, Quanah, Chillicothe, Bowie, Nocona, Mantague, Forestburg, Saint Jo, Prairie Valley, Goldburg, Wichita Falls, Iowa Park, Wichita Christian, City View, Burkburnett, Vernon, Harrold and Northside.

Independent School Districts with delayed opening (10 AM) on February 25: Windthorst, Seymour, Perrin-Whitt, Electra, and Olney

DDC 7 – Abilene (Includes: Brown, Callahan, Coleman, Comanche, Eastland, Fisher, Haskell, Jones, Kent, Knox, Mitchell, Nolan, Runnels, Scurry, Shackelford, Stephens, Stonewall, Throckmorton, and Taylor Counties)

Temperatures are in the teens to mid-20s this morning with wind chills as low as 7 degrees. Icy spots remain a travel hazard, mainly on backroads, elevated surfaces, and city streets. This afternoon, temperatures should warm into the mid-30s to low 40s north of I-20 with the southern half of the area all into the 40s. A light wintry mix may be possible late Friday night into Saturday morning as temperatures across the area will be sitting near and below freezing. All weather warnings and advisories have expired, with the exception of a Freezing Fog Advisory for Kent County.

TxDOT continues operations as needed and traffic is moving well throughout the district. Ice is no longer reported to be an issue on District 7 roadways, but there are still slick spots due to the low overnight temperatures. There are no road closures due to weather. Abilene Regional Airport is operational.

TMD teams in Abilene and Brownwood are planned to be released today. There have been no active patrols for stranded motorists, as THP and TxDOT have reported no need.

Aspermont, Cross Plains, & Eula ISDs are delayed two hours Friday.

Warming Centers: Many warming centers have been pre-identified and are ready to be operational if the need arises. Currently, Salvation Army Abilene is the only known open warming station.

Region 6 (Includes DDCs 11, 12, 17, 18A, 18B, and 23)

DDC 11 – Waco (Includes: Bosque, Falls, Freestone, Hill, Limestone, and McLennan Counties)

McLennan County: County offices and Early Voting opened at 10 AM. Independent School Districts closed on Thursday: Clifton, Cranfills, and Valley Mills.

Colleges/Universities closed on Thursday: Baylor (Open for Virtual Learning), Hill College – Hillsboro.

Independent School Districts delayed two hours on Thursday: Abbott, Aquilla, Axtell, Bruceville-Eddy, Gholson, Kopperl (10 AM), Lorena, Marlin (10 AM), Robinson (10 AM), Rosebud-Lott, West, Whitney, and Wortham.

Texas State Technical College will open at 10 AM on Thursday.

Warming Center:

Salvation Army Community Kitchen, 300 Webster Avenue, Waco, will be open 24 hours a day while temperatures remain below 40°.

DPS offices in Bell, Coryell, Hill, Lampasas, Llano, McLennan and Mills counties have been closed Thursday, February 24.

DDC 12 – Austin (Includes: Bastrop, Blanco, Burnet, Caldwell, Fayette, Hays, Lee, Llano, Travis, and Williamson Counties)

Hays County and the City of Round Rock, Williamson County, delayed opening official offices by two hours.

RESPONDING STATE AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS REPORTS

Texas Division of Emergency Management, Texas A&M University System (TDEM): At 7:00 AM, February 23, TDEM increased the readiness of the State Operations Center (SOC) to Level II: escalated response for the winter weather ahead of wintry conditions expected to impact portions of Texas, with the most significant impacts Wednesday through Sunday.

Representatives from key state agencies belonging to the Emergency Management Council reported to the SOC beginning Wednesday, February 23, at 7 AM to assist in the state's winter weather response.

TDEM Business Outreach: Activated to support the Winter Weather Event. Working with Disaster Finance to locate supplies needed for the event and with Private Sector Partners to obtain and disseminate situational awareness. One Walmart was closed in Carrollton and Sealy. CVS has 15 locations closed in the DFW area. Walgreens has eight locations closed in the DFW area.

TDEM Communications Coordination Group (CCG): CCG is working with their public, private, vendor and volunteer partners to respond to possible communications outages caused by the winter weather. There have been no reports of major communications outages. The Amateur Operators have begun providing Critical Infrastructure Reports (CIR), providing situational awareness of their local areas. The SOC has received thirteen (13) CIRs from Amateur Radio operators located in the impacted areas. As of this report, the major issue being reported via the CIRs were hazardous road conditions in the western portion of the state.

Pertinent issues are being passed to the applicable agencies and Disaster Districts for action. The various Amateur Radio groups across the state have established radio nets to include the activation of VHF / UHF repeater networks. The repeaters' primary purpose is to enhance local communications. TDEM conducted a test of its MSAT satellite systems to ensure additional emergency communications systems are available if required. Their state, local, federal, and private sector partners continue to monitor the situation and standby to provide assistance as needed.

TDEM Disaster Recovery Task Force (DRTF): Warming center locations continually being updated on the TDEM website. Sheltering and Feeding partners across the state remain on standby, ready to support any needs that arise. Mass Care is collaborating with Media & Communications to create public messaging to help locate warming shelters through the TDEM website.

DRTF Staff: DRTF Staff continue to support mass care efforts through the collection of warming center and shelter locations to populate the TDEM public map and to provide to 211.

TDEM Volunteer Agency Liaison (VAL): Continued communication and coordination with Long Term Recovery Groups, VOAD member organizations and nonprofit partner agencies. Organizations are on standby to assist as necessary. Currently no identified unmet needs.

Texas A&M Engineering and Extension Service (TEEX): TEEX / Texas A&M Public Works Response Team (TX-PWRT) continues to support and coordinate operations from the Remote SOC serving as ESF-3.

Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC): HHSC began staffing the SOC in support of winter weather response operations on February 23. HHSC staff will remain in the SOC for the duration of the incident. HHSC departments participating in the response are monitoring the situation. Long-term Care Regulation reports no impacts facilities at this time. State Hospitals and State Supported Living Centers report only minimal impacts at facilities at this time. The Texas Information and Referral Network (TIRN) 2-1-1 is distributing information about warming locations and/or overnight shelters as requested. 2-1-1 had 5 inquiries related to these services on February 22. Ice, water, and freight vendors are on standby to respond as needed.

Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC): ERCOT projects the peak electricity demand for this event to occur Friday morning, and expects to have sufficient resources to meet this demand. There was a brief outage in Hidalgo County Thursday morning affecting approximately 9,000 customers. This was an equipment issue unrelated to the weather, and most customers were restored by 11:00 AM. There have been no other significant outages due to the weather as of 3:00 PM Thursday. The PUC and ERCOT were activated to the SOC effective 7:00 AM on

Wednesday, February 23. The PUC will continue to monitor the weather and report any outages as they occur.

Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC): RRC has initiated and is maintaining operational communication with local gas distribution companies, pipelines, and major producers. Operators, and other district personnel, will continue to monitor and report major impacts. RRC has not received any reports of weather-related natural gas production or distribution issues. Operators have reported that they do not anticipate major issues at this time. RRC will continue to support ESF 12 and work with TxDOT and PUC throughout the event. The RRC has 3 staff assigned to support SOC operations and has plans in place to support 12-Hour operations throughout the event.

ERCOT projects the peak electricity demand for this event to occur Friday morning, February 25, and expects to have sufficient resources to meet this demand. There was a brief outage in Hidalgo County this morning affecting approximately 9,000 customers. This was an equipment issue unrelated to the weather, and most customers were restored by 11AM.

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ): TCEQ has staff and emergency response hazmat contractors on standby for possible deployment to assist local governments with any air/water/waste related issues including drinking water/wastewater issues and/or emergency response activities.

Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS): DPS has increased the readiness of statewide resources to appropriately respond to this winter weather event. Texas Highway Patrol (THP) troopers and other DPS personnel are fully prepared to respond as conditions dictate. Affected THP Disaster District Chairs are communicating with TxDOT, TDEM, TPWD, and local officials to implement emergency response plans. The Northwest and North Texas regions are prepared to coordinate with state police partners in Oklahoma and Arkansas to ensure prompt responses to potential interstate highway issues. Texas Highway Patrol troopers are investigating crashes, assisting stranded motorists, directing traffic, and working closely with other state agencies and local government entities in the affected areas, which are primarily in the Northwest, North, and Central Texas regions. Due to hazardous road conditions, numerous DPS offices in the North and Central Texas regions were closed or had delayed openings on Thursday, February 24. Due to hazardous road conditions, the following DPS offices in the North and Central Texas regions are closed on Friday, February 25: Erath, Palo Pinto, Somervell, Hood, Parker, Wise, Johnson, Tarrant, Denton, Navarro, Ellis, Kaufman, Dallas, Rockwall, Hunt, Collin, Cooke, Grayson, Fannin, Lamar, Franklin, Hopkins, Delta, Wood, Rains, Van Zandt, Henderson, Anderson, Red River, and Titus.

Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) DSHS - Texas Emergency Medical Task Force (EMTF): EMTF will remain on STANDBY due to the winter weather system impacting the state through Friday in central and north TX, two Severe Weather Packages covering EMTFs 1,2 & 4.

Texas Military Department (TMD): TMD will support Texas Department of Public Safety Highway Patrol (DPS), Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), and Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) in protecting life and property during winter weather in Texas. TMD has activated 127 personnel and 54 vehicles. Units are staged in Wichita Falls, DFW, Abilene, Brownwood, and Round Rock in support of 22-0007 February Winter Weather.

Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD): TPWD has prepared for this winter weather event and is prepared to support with 4x4 vehicles/personnel statewide. Also, TPWD personnel along with Aviation including our UAS Team is continuing to be advised of the current weather conditions and are maintaining a state of readiness.

Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT): Currently there are 1787 state roadways that are impacted by winter weather with zero closures. TxDOT Districts engaged in winter weather operations have staff for 24-hour operations. Daily situation calls are being conducted with districts and divisions. Districts with impacts are on 24 hour operations with EOCs activated. Express / managed lanes will remain closed in Fort Worth and Dallas until Monday. Overnight and today elevated structures continue to be an issue with several accidents in the Dallas Fort Worth area; including a major accident north of Fort Worth near the Texas Motor Speedway. Traffic is able to be rerouted on service roads. There is an accident in the clearing stages on IH-20 in Stanton near Midland that has caused traffic back up. Issues on IH-20 near Eastland have cleared up. There have been icing issues on Toll 130 near Georgetown and Austin.

STATE RESOURCES COMMITTED

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
DSHS/EMTF	Task Force Leader		1	Standby	EMTF Region 1, 2 & 4
DSHS/EMTF	Medical Incident Support		1	Standby	EMTF Region 1, 2 & 4
DSHS/EMTF	AMBUS		1	Standby	EMTF Region 1, 2 & 4
DSHS/EMTF	Ambulance Strike Team		1	Standby	EMTF Region 1, 2 & 4
PUC	SOC Liaison	2		Assigned	Austin/SOC
TAMFS	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	Austin/SOC

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
TCEQ	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	Austin/SOC
TDEM	DRTF	2		Assigned	Austin/SOC
TEEX	TEEX/TX PWRT	1		Assigned	Austin/SOC
HHSC	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	Austin/SOC
RRC	SOC Liaison	3		Assigned	Austin/SOC
TXDPS	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	Austin/SOC
TMD	Winter Weather BNMC	30	14	Assigned	Lubbock
TMD	Winter Weather MRP	18	8	Assigned	Wylie
TMD	Winter Weather MRP	18	8	Assigned	Wichita Falls
TMD	Winter Weather BNMC (TAC)	6		Assigned	Wichita Falls
TMD	Winter Weather MRP	18	8	Assigned	Round Rock
TMD	Winter Weather MRP	18	8	Assigned	Brownwood
TMD	Winter Weather MRP	18	8	Assigned	Abilene
TMD	Public Affairs Officer	1		Assigned	Austin
TPWD	SOC Liaison	1	1	Assigned	Austin/SOC
TxDOT	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	Austin/SOC

FINAL COMMENTS: The State Operations Center (SOC) is at Level II (Escalated Response Conditions). The Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) continues to monitor the situation and will provide additional situation reports as needed.

The four levels of SOC activation are:

Level I (Emergency Conditions)
Level II (Escalated Response Conditions)
Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions)
Level IV (Normal Conditions)

This Situation Report can be found on the TDEM webpage at: https://www.tdem.texas.gov/response/state-operations-center#tab-2

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